

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARIES OF THE ARMY, NAVY, AND AIR  
FORCE, WITH APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, TO  
CAUSE TO BE PUBLISHED OFFICIAL REGISTERS FOR THEIR  
RESPECTIVE SERVICES

---

JUNE 12, 1951.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State  
of the Union and ordered to be printed

---

Mr. HÉBERT, from the Committee on Armed Services, submitted the  
following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 1183]

The Committee on Armed Services, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 1183), to authorize the Secretaries of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force, with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, to cause to be published official registers for their respective services, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to standardize the procedure for the publication of the Army Register, the Navy Register, and the Air Force Register.

The Army and Navy Registers are mentioned in various laws, parts of laws, and resolutions dating back as far as 1812. The only legal basis for the publication of an Air Force Register is an assumption that the laws relating to the Army Register are applicable to the Air Force, and the references to an Air Force Register in sections 201 and 301 (a) of Public Law 810, Eightieth Congress (62 Stat. 1081). The proposed legislation would repeal the miscellaneous statutes relating to the contents of the registers and enact one provision of law uniformly applicable to all of the armed services.

Inasmuch as the Air Force is already publishing an Air Force Register, in keeping with the interpretation of Public Law 810, Eightieth Congress, the enactment of the proposed legislation will not entail any increase in cost for the publication of the official registers of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force.

Under existing law, the Army and the Navy are required to publish their official registers annually. There is no justification for such a mandatory requirement during time of war. The proposed legislation

authorizes the Secretaries to publish the register annually, or at such times as they may designate, thereby removing the mandatory provision for annual publication during time of war, or other national emergency when such publication is not necessary. In this respect it is possible the proposed legislation might result in a monetary savings.

The proposed legislation is a part of the Department of Defense legislative program for 1951 and has been approved by the Bureau of the Budget. The Department of Defense recommends that it be enacted by the Congress, as is evidenced by the letters of the Assistant Secretary of Defense which is hereto attached and made a part of this report.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,  
Washington 25, D. C., January 5, 1951.

Hon. SAM RAYBURN,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. SPEAKER: There is forwarded herewith a draft of legislation to authorize the Secretaries of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force, with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, to cause to be published official registers for their respective services.

This proposal is a part of the Department of Defense legislative program for 1951 and it has been approved by the Bureau of the Budget. The Department of Defense recommends that it be enacted by the Congress.

*Purpose of the legislation.*—The Army and Navy Registers are mentioned in various laws, parts of laws, and resolutions dating as far back as 1812. The only legal basis for the publication of an Air Force Register is an assumption that the laws relating to the Army Register are applicable to the Air Force, and the references to an Air Force Register in sections 201 and 301 (a) of Public Law 810, Eightieth Congress (62 Stat. 1081). This proposed legislation would repeal the miscellaneous statutes relating to the contents of the registers and enact one provision of law applicable to all the armed services.

The statutes or parts thereof which are repealed by section 2 of the attached draft require the following information to be included in the appropriate register:

- (a) Lineal rank for each arm; enlisted service; volunteer service of Regular Army officers.
- (b) Highest volunteer rank of Regular Army officers.
- (c) Retired officers of the Army.
- (d) Disabled emergency officers of the Army and of the Navy and Marine Corps.
- (e) Names of certain persons who submitted to yellow fever experiments (Army Register).
- (f) Retired Regular Army and Regular Air Force officers.
- (g) Retired officers of the Army of the United States and the Air Force of the United States other than Regulars.
- (h) Retired Navy officers.
- (i) Warrant officers of the Navy.
- (j) Members of uniformed services who are on a temporary disability retired list.

*Legislative references.*—Legislation identical with this proposal was included in the Department of Defense legislative program for consideration by the Eighty-first Congress, second session, approved by the Bureau of the Budget and introduced in the Congress (S. 3390 and H. R. 8087). No further action was taken by the Eighty-first Congress with respect to S. 3390 and H. R. 8087.

*Cost and budget data.*—(a) Current budget moneys: Current appropriations are sufficient to carry out the purpose of this legislation.

(b) Cost: The average annual cost of this legislation will approximate \$94,000 per year. This figure does not represent any increase in cost for the publication of the Army Register and the Navy Register, but does contemplate an expenditure of \$22,000 for the publication of the Air Force Register.

*Department of Defense action agency.*—The Department of the Army has been designated as the representative of the Department of Defense for this legislation.

Sincerely yours,

MARX LEVA.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,  
Washington 25, D. C., January 5, 1951.

Hon. CARL VINSON,  
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,  
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Department of Defense has today submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives a legislative proposal to authorize the Secretaries of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force, with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, to cause to be published official registers for their respective services.

That proposal is a part of the Department of Defense legislative program for 1951 and it has been approved by the Bureau of the Budget. The Department of Defense recommends that it be enacted by the Congress.

Copies of the letter transmitting the above-mentioned legislative proposal to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the draft of bill are enclosed for your information and appropriate action.

Sincerely yours,

MARX LEVA.

In compliance with clause 2a of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, there is herewith printed in parallel columns the text of provisions of existing laws which could be repealed or amended by the various provisions of the bill and the text of the bill.

#### EXISTING LAW

#### THE BILL

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretaries of the military departments, with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, are authorized to have published, annually or at such times as they may designate, official Registers containing the names of and pertinent data relating to such officers of the Regular and Reserve components of their respective services and such other lists as they may deem appropriate.

SEC. 2. All laws or parts of laws requiring the periodic publication of an official Register of the Army, of the Navy and Marine Corps, and of the Air Force, and prescribing the contents thereof, including, but not restricted to, provisions relating to lists of names, grades, pay and emoluments, and personal data inconsistent with the provisions of this section are repealed and such repeal shall include but shall not be limited to the following Acts or parts of Acts:

body of 20 (20 Stat. 149)

SEC. 2. That in every official Army Register hereafter issued, the lineal rank of all officers of the line of the Army shall be given separately for the different arms of the service; and if the officer be promoted from the ranks, or shall have served in the Volunteer Army, either as an enlisted man or officer, his service as a private and non-commissioned officer shall be given, and in addition thereto the record of his service as volunteer.

(a) Section 2 of the Act of June 18, 1878 (20 Stat. 149).

4 PUBLISH OFFICIAL REGISTERS FOR ARMY, NAVY, AND AIR FORCE

EXISTING LAW

(18 Stat. 215)

SEC. 1226. \* \* \* The highest volunteer rank which has been held by officers of the Regular Army shall be entered, with their names respectively, upon the Army Register.

(18 Stat. 218)

Sec. 1256. \* \* \* continue to be borne on the Army Register, and shall \* \* \*.

(45 Stat. 735)

SEC. 1. \* \* \* ; *And provided further*, That the retired list created by this Act of officers of the Army shall be published annually in the Army Register, and said retired lists of officers of the Navy and Marine Corps, respectively, shall be published annually in the Navy Register.

(45 Stat. 1409)

\* \* \* and directed \* \* \*.

(62 Stat. 1084)

SEC. 201. \* \* \* to be published annually in the official Register of the service concerned, \* \* \*.

(62 Stat. 1087)

SEC. 301 (a). \* \* \* to be published annually in the official Register of the service concerned, \* \* \*.

(18 Stat. 253)

SEC. 1457. \* \* \* and continue to be borne on the Navy Register. \* \* \*.

(18 Stat. 248)

SEC. 1406. \* \* \* and shall be entered upon the naval Register \* \* \*.

THE BILL

(b) So much of section 1226, Revised Statutes (18 Stat. 215), as reads "The highest volunteer rank which has been held by officers of the Regular Army shall be entered, with their names respectively, upon the Army Register."

(c) So much of section 1256, Revised Statutes (18 Stat. 218), as reads "continue to be borne upon the Army Register, and shall".

(d) The ultimate proviso of section 1 of the Act of May 24, 1928 (45 Stat. 735).

(e) The words "and directed" in the seventh line of the Act of February 28, 1929 (45 Stat. 1409).

(f) So much of the first sentence of section 201 of the Act of June 29, 1948 (Public Law 810, Eightieth Congress), as reads "to be published annually in the official Register of the service concerned."

(g) So much of subsection 301 (a) of the Act of June 29, 1948 (Public Law 810, Eightieth Congress) as reads "to be published annually in the official Register of the service concerned".

(h) So much of section 1457, Revised Statutes (18 Stat. 253), as reads "and continue to be borne on the Navy Register".

(i) So much of section 1406, Revised Statutes (18 Stat. 248), as reads "and shall be entered upon the naval Register".

SEC. 3. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such funds as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.